

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A process for the purification of ~~an~~ inorganic salt ~~containing an~~ comprising at least one organic material, which process comprises ~~granulating~~ ~~or~~ chemically treating and/or granulating a powdered inorganic salt ~~containing an~~ comprising at least one organic material to obtain a chemically-treated and/or granulated inorganic salt, and then ~~subjecting~~ heat treating the chemically-treated and/or granulated inorganic salt, material to heat treatment.

wherein the average equivalent sphere diameter of the granulated inorganic salt comprising at least one organic material is from 1 to 100 mm, and

wherein the chemical treatment enhances the efficiency of the removal of the organic material during the heat treating step and/or acts as a binder for the powdered inorganic salt comprising at least one organic material during the granulating step.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The process ~~for the purification of an inorganic salt containing an organic material~~ according to Claim 1, wherein the powdered inorganic salt comprising at least one organic material is granulated and the density of ~~said the~~ granulated ~~powder of~~ inorganic salt ~~containing an organic material~~ is not lower than 70% of the true density of inorganic salt in said inorganic salt ~~containing an~~ comprising at least one organic material.

Claim 3 (Canceled):

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The process ~~for the purification of an inorganic salt containing an organic material~~ according to Claim 1, wherein the powdered inorganic salt

comprising at least one organic material is granulated and the crushing strength of said the granulated powder of inorganic salt containing an organic material is not lower than 5 kg.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The process ~~for the purification of an inorganic salt containing an organic material~~ according to Claim 1, wherein the heat treatment temperature is not lower than 400°C.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The process ~~for the purification of an inorganic salt containing an organic material~~ according to Claim 1, wherein the heat treatment temperature is not higher than the melting point of the inorganic salt in said inorganic salt ~~containing an~~ comprising at least one organic material.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The process ~~for the purification of an inorganic salt containing an organic material~~ according to Claim 1, wherein the heat treatment ~~involves~~ comprises the use of a rotary kiln.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The process ~~for the purification of an inorganic salt containing an organic material~~ according to Claim 1, wherein the heat treatment is effected carried out on a moving bed ~~(shaft kiln)~~.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The process ~~for the purification of an inorganic salt containing an organic material~~ according to Claim 1, wherein the inorganic salt in said inorganic salt ~~containing an~~ comprising at least one organic material comprises a halide of alkaline metal and/or halide of alkaline earth metal.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The process ~~for the purification of an inorganic salt containing an organic material~~ according to Claim 1, wherein the inorganic salt in said inorganic salt ~~containing an~~ comprising at least one organic material is sodium chloride.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The process ~~for the purification of an inorganic salt containing an organic material~~ according to Claim 10, wherein said sodium chloride is ~~one containing~~ comprises ethylenamine produced by a dichloroethane process for the preparation of ethylenamine which comprises reacting dichloroethane with ammonia to produce an ethylenamine compound.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The process ~~for the purification of an inorganic salt containing an organic material~~ according to Claim 10, wherein said sodium chloride is ~~one~~ produced as a by-product ~~by~~ of a process for the production of epichlorohydrin.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The process ~~for the purification of an inorganic salt containing an organic material~~ according to Claim 1, wherein the powdered inorganic salt comprising at least one organic material is granulated, and the process further comprises  
wherein dissolving the granulated and heat-treated powder of inorganic salt  
~~containing an organic material which has been granulated and heat treated is dissolved in~~  
water to form a solution A, and then filtered filtering said solution A.

Claim 14 (Canceled):

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The process ~~for the purification of an inorganic salt containing an organic material~~ according to Claim 1, wherein the powdered inorganic salt

comprising at least one organic material is chemically-treated and said chemical treatment involves the ~~comprises~~ mixing of said powdered inorganic salt ~~containing an~~ comprising at least one organic material with at least one an alkali and/or at least one oxidizing agent to form a mixture.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The process ~~for the purification of an inorganic salt containing an organic material~~ according to Claim 15, wherein said alkali comprises a at least one hydroxide of alkaline metal and/or at least one hydroxide of alkaline earth metal.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): The process ~~for the purification of an inorganic salt containing an organic material~~ according to Claim 16, wherein said alkali is at least one selected from the group consisting of lithium hydroxide, sodium hydroxide and potassium hydroxide.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): The process ~~for the purification of an inorganic salt containing an organic material~~ according to Claim 15, wherein the heat treatment temperature is not lower than 200°C.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): The process ~~for the purification of an inorganic salt containing an organic material~~ according to Claim 15, wherein the heat treatment temperature is not higher than the melting point of the inorganic salt in said inorganic salt ~~containing an~~ comprising at least one organic material.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): The process ~~for the purification of an inorganic salt containing an organic material~~ according to Claim 15, wherein the heat treatment ~~involves~~ comprises the use of a rotary kiln.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): The process ~~for the purification of an inorganic salt containing an organic material~~ according to Claim 15, wherein the heat treatment is ~~effected~~ carried out on a fluidized bed.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): The process ~~for the purification of an inorganic salt containing an organic material~~ according to Claim 15, wherein the heat treatment is ~~effected~~ carried out on a moving bed ~~(shaft kiln)~~.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): The process ~~for the purification of an inorganic salt containing an organic material~~ according to Claim 15, wherein further comprising  
granulating said mixture.

~~said powder of inorganic salt containing an organic material is mixed with an alkali and/or oxidizing agent, and then granulated.~~

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): The process ~~for the purification of an inorganic salt containing an organic material~~ according to Claim 15, wherein the inorganic salt in said inorganic salt ~~containing an~~ comprising at least one organic material comprises a at least one halide of alkaline metal and/or at least one halide of alkaline earth metal.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): The process ~~for the purification of an inorganic salt containing an organic material~~ according to Claim 15, wherein the inorganic salt in said inorganic salt ~~containing an~~ comprising at least one organic material is sodium chloride.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): The process ~~for the purification of an inorganic salt containing an organic material~~ according to Claim 25, wherein said sodium chloride is ~~one containing~~ comprises ethylenamine produced by a dichloroethane process for the preparation of ethylenamine which comprises reacting dichloroethane with ammonia to produce an ethylenamine compound.

Claim 27 (Currently Amended): The process ~~for the purification of an inorganic salt containing an organic material~~ according to Claim 25, wherein said sodium chloride is ~~one~~ produced as a by-product ~~by~~ of a process for the production of epichlorohydrin.

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): The process ~~for the purification of an inorganic salt containing an organic material~~ according to Claim 15, ~~wherein~~ further comprising  
dissolving the chemically-treated and heat-treated powder of inorganic salt containing  
an organic material which has been heat-treated is dissolved in water to form a solution B,  
and then ~~filtered~~  
filtering said solution B.

Claim 29 (Canceled):

Claim 30 (New): The process according to Claim 23, wherein the powdered inorganic salt comprising at least one organic material is granulated and the process further comprises

dissolving the granulated, chemically-treated and heat-treated inorganic salt in water to form a solution C, and then

filtering said solution C.

Claim 31 (New): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the average equivalent sphere diameter of the granulated inorganic salt comprising at least one organic material is from 18 mm to 90 mm.